Atty. Dkt. No. 016887-1027





oplicant:

Ryuichi ISHII et al.

Title:

HEAT-RESISTING STEEL, METHOD

FOR THERMALLY TREATING HEAT-

RESISTING STEEL, AND

COMPONENTS MADE OF HEAT-

**RESISTING STEEL** 

Appl. No.:

09/725,234

Filing Date:

11/29/2000

Examiner:

S. IP

Art Unit:

1742

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated March 12, 2003, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicant has enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

The amendments presented below are in compliance with the revised amendment format permitted in the Notice from the Office of Patent Legal Administration of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office dated February 10, 2003, and published at 1267 OG 106 on February 25, 2003. Thus, the provisions of 37 CFR 1.121(a), (b), (c) and (d) are waived for amendments made in this application to the claims, specification, and drawings.

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Amendments to the Abstract are presented as a new Abstract attached to this document for insertion after the claim pages of the application (or to replace the previously submitted Abstract).

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this document.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 9 of this document, and include an attached replacement drawing sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: